

Serial No. 09/717,544  
Response to Office Action mailed on July 16, 2002  
Page 2

- C1 A1 ~~B1~~
1. A protective assembly for a computer system, comprising:
- a chassis;
  - an access panel;
  - a first and a second latch member secured to the access panel;
  - a first and a second catch member moveably secured to the chassis,  
wherein the first catch member is disposed on the interior of a first  
sidewall of the chassis to secure the first latch member and the  
second catch member is disposed on the interior of a second  
sidewall of the chassis, opposite the first sidewall, to secure the  
second latch member, the first and second catch members being  
biased in a first direction to secure the first and second latch  
members and being movable in a second direction to release the  
first and second latch members; and
  - a first and a second operator, wherein the first operator is disposed on the  
exterior of the first sidewall and secured through the chassis to the  
first catch member and the second operator is disposed on the  
exterior of the second sidewall, the first and second operators being  
adapted to move the first and second catch members in the second  
direction to release the first and second latch members.

2. (Amended) The system as recited in claim 1, wherein the latch member  
includes a first engaging portion and a first securing portion and the catch member includes  
a second engaging portion and a second securing portion, the first and second engaging

Serial No. 09/717,544  
Response to Office Action mailed on July 16, 2002  
Page 3

C/A portions being adapted to enable the first securing portion engage the second securing portion to displace the catch member, the first and second securing portions being adapted to enable the second securing portion capture the first securing portion.

A/C 11. (Amended) The system as recited in claim 2, wherein each catch member includes a third engaging portion and a third securing portion symmetrical about an axis with the second engaging portion and the second securing portion, the second securing portion being adapted to capture the first securing portion of the first latch member when the catch member is disposed on the first sidewall of the chassis and the third securing portion being adapted to capture the first securing portion of the second latch member when the catch member is disposed on the second sidewall of the chassis.

A/C 17. (Amended) The first member as recited in claim 19, wherein the first surface is angled.

A/C 19. (Amended) A securing member for securing an access panel having a first and a second latch extending therefrom to a chassis, the securing member comprising:

a first surface configured for sliding engagement with the first latch as the access panel is pivoted towards a closed position on the chassis when the securing member is disposed on a first side of the chassis;

a second surface configured to restrict movement of the first latch when the securing member is disposed on a first side of the chassis;

Serial No. 09/717,544

Response to Office Action mailed on July 16, 2002

Page 4

Q AL

a third surface configured for sliding engagement with the second latch as the access panel is pivoted towards a closed position on the chassis when the securing member is disposed on a second side of the chassis, opposite the first side; and

a fourth surface configured to restrict movement of the second latch when the securing member is disposed on second side of the chassis, the third surface and fourth surface being oriented symmetrically about an axis with the first surface and second surface.

---

Please add the following new claims:

ABU

25. (New) A method of assembling an electronic system, comprising:

providing a plurality of interchangeable catch members adapted to be selectively disposed on the interior of opposite sidewalls of a chassis to capture a latch member extending from an access panel;

providing a plurality of manual operators adapted to be disposed on the exterior of the chassis and securable to the plurality of catch members through an opening in the chassis;

providing a chassis having a first opening through a first sidewall and a second opening through a second sidewall opposite the first sidewall;

securing one of the plurality of catch members to one of the plurality of manual operators through the first opening in the first sidewall; and

Serial No. 09/717,544

Response to Office Action mailed on July 16, 2002

Page 5

A5C

securing a second of the plurality of catch members to a second one of the plurality of manual operators through the second opening in the second sidewall.

26. (New) The method as recited in claim 25, further comprising: disposing a biasing member within each of the catch members.

27. (New) The method as recited in claim 26, comprising aligning each of the catch members with a guide rail adapted to extend into each catch member.